GLOSSARY

For this paper, terms will be used as follows:

Alaska: region including only Alaska.

Catastrophic will refer to conditions of such magnitude that they require special attention to avoid adverse impacts to people or property (such as when state or federal "disaster areas" are designated).

Commercial species: tree species commonly harvested as timber.

Hardwood: broadleaf trees species (as opposed to conifer species.

Dense structure: forest areas of trees so crowded together that their shade prevents shrubs and non-woody plants from growing on the forest floor;

Diverse structure: Forests containing a large range of sizes and species of trees, as well as snags, downed logs, and shrubs and non-woody vegetation growing on the forest floor.

East refers to the combined South and North regions.

Forest health refers to the ability of the forest to provide various commodity and non-commodity values. The term has been defined differently by different organizations, and so is ambiguous. (See Appendix A.)

Growing Stock: living trees of commercially useable species capable of meeting specific standards of quality and vigor.

Gross growth: increase in growing stock, not subtracting mortality.

Habitats: See "structures"

High quality timber refers to trees of large diameters and usually old ages and small knots which are harvested for manufacturing commodities. Technology is allowing many high quality products to also be made from timber which is not of this high quality.

Inland West: region also known as the Rocky Mountain region,

Natural will refer to conditions not directly created by people (e.g., "natural fires"), although nearly all forest conditions in North America have been indirectly influenced by people during the past 10,000 years.

Net growth: net increase in growing stock after mortality has been subtracted.

Non-growing stock harvest: includes salvage of dead trees, small trees, non-commercial species, and nonforest land.

Non-industrial, private forest landowner: non-public forest landowners who do not also own commodity manufacturing facilities. This ownership includes both private individuals and families and large investment companies.

North: region including the Northeast and North Central United States,

Old Growth will not be used, since it has been used to refer to different structures (diverse, understory, savanna, and dense); therefore, its meaning is ambiguous. The structures referred to in this paper are defined under "structures."

Open structure: forest openings primarily covered with shrubs and non-woody plants and very small (young) trees;

Other public: federal, state, and other government administrators of land except the USDA Forest Service.

Pacific Coast: region including Washington, Oregon, and California (and Hawaii, although Hawaii's forests are not minimal and not otherwise discussed in this report).

Private, industrial forest landowner: non-public forest landowners who also own commodity manufacturing facilities.

Preserves will not be used, but has often been used for areas free from timber harvest. Preserves imply these areas will remain unchanged, and so is misleading since forests always change. (See reserves.)

Productive forests are those forests capable of growing over 20 cubic feet/acre/year (definition follows USDA Forest Service RPA report; Powell et al. 1993).

Removals: timber volume harvested and utilized or otherwise killed by weeding, land clearing, etc.

Reserves will refer to areas such as National Parks and Wilderness Areas which are characterized by excluding (or essentially excluding) commodity use--especially timber management and harvest. This definition is used by the USDA Forest Service RPA. This term is nearly the opposite of the original term "reserves", which referred to areas to be managed as forests for both commodities and non-commodities. "Preserves" has also been suggested; however, this term implies that the areas will be remain unchanged (preserved). The forest will always change, even without commodity production; and areas excluded from human activity will develop dramatically differently than they have during human habitation of the past 10,000 years or more.

Savanna structure: park-like areas with widely spaced, large trees with primarily shrubs and non-woody plants between them;

South: region including the Southeast and South Central United States.

Stand: a contiguous area of forest of relatively uniform soil, topography, species mixture, structure, and disturbance history.

Structures refer to different sizes, numbers, and arrangements of trees, shrubs, and other organic matter. Structures and Habitats will be used synonomously. Although habitats sometimes have other definitions, these definitions are not incompatible for this report's discussion. The structures and habitats used in this paper are: savanna, open, dense, understory, and diverse.

Timber: trees harvested for manufacture of wood products.

Timberland refers to those productive forests which are not in reserves (excluded from timber or other commodity production).

Total harvest: harvest of both growing stock and non-growing stock.

Understory structure: forest areas of trees less crowded, so shrubs and non-woody vegetation grows on the forest floor;

West refers to the combined Inland West, Pacific Coast, and Alaska regions.